**CONFRONTING COMMON EXCUSES**

**LESSON 9 – OCTOBER 26, 2025**

I Can’t Risk It. (Cost Me Too Much)

**Key Verse(s):** Esther 4:11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or women, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

A logo of a book

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**Summary of the Biblical Event**

Though Esther lived in a royal palace, her life was far from carefree. She had risen from being an obscure slave to becoming the queen of a mighty empire, yet her people were now facing extermination because of Haman’s wicked plot against them. He was a prideful man who could not tolerate Mordecai’s unwillingness to bow down to him as a god. When Mordecai urged her to go before the king and plead for the Jews, fear gripped her heart. She knew the law—anyone who entered the king’s presence uninvited could be put to death. For thirty days she had not been called, and to approach him unbidden could cost her life. Esther’s hesitation revealed a struggle between faith and fear; she could not risk everything, yet she could not ignore what was at stake. Mordecai reminded her that silence would not spare her and that perhaps God had placed her in that position “for such a time as this.” Confronted with the weight of that truth, Esther resolved to act, declaring, “If I perish, I perish.” Her courage to risk all in obedience to God led to deliverance for the Jews.



**Examining the Motives Exposing the Flaws**

* She was motivated to protect what God had given to her.
* She saw more risk in taking action than in doing nothing.
* She may have believed there were better options for victory.
* She may have thought that it was not quite time to be risky.
* She was relying on the safe thinking that’d led her there.
* There was a clear reason that God had given her the crown.
* There is always more risk in not doing what God calls us to.
* Someone will always be the option that God has chosen.
* Timing can’t be based on what is convenient but on God’s will.
* Godly prudence is not the same as man’s pragmatism.

**Effects of the Excuse**

**1. It causes us to neglect the example of risk set for us on the cross of Calvary.**

**Philippians 2:8** — “And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

**2. It limits the opportunities in our life for faith & patience to be grown & perfected.**

**James 1:3–4** — “Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”

**3. It causes us to trust outcomes more than to trust obedience.**

**Proverbs 3:5–6** — “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

**4. It promotes cowardice by justifying our fearful decisions as wise and discerning.**

**James 3:17** — “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”



PERSONAL APPLICATION

**Verse:** Psalm 56:3

“What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.”

**Reflective Questions:**

* Am I am able to discern between the use of fear and faith in my decision making?
* Is there something I am actually making worse because I am afraid to take action?

**Commitment:**

* I’ll realize that actions of faith require risk.
* I will not place my own self-interests above the commands and will of God for my life.

Esther wanted to help. What do you think she was specifically waiting for?

Why might one be surprised that Mordecai encouraged Esther to act?

How would our perspective be different if the king had killed Esther that day?

Based on this story, name three things needed to help us take Godly risks?

What in Mordecai’s answer might have actually made her more nervous to step forward and take action?